

Joseph M. Sandri, Jr.
SVP, Regulatory & Government Affairs
1730 Rhode Island Avenue, NW
Suite 317
Washington DC 20036
Tel: 703.873.4175

Fax: 202.315.3415 jsandri@fibertower.com

March 2, 2007

The Honorable Kevin J. Martin Chairman Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, SW Washington, D.C. 20554

RE: M2Z Networks' License Application and Forbearance Petition WT Docket Nos. 07-16 & 07-30

## Dear Chairman Martin:

FiberTower Corporation (FiberTower) (NASDAQ: FTWR), formerly known as First Avenue Networks, Inc., was incorporated in 1993 to build and operate a shared high-capacity backhaul network for wireless operators and service providers in the United States. The Company is a leading provider of facilities-based backhaul services to wireless carriers. We utilize our comprehensive wireless spectrum assets, which extend over virtually the entire U.S., to provide backhaul services through hybrid radio/fiber network architecture. Our services allow wireless carriers to optimize their networks enabling significant improvements in their availability, reliability, scalability and cost, while providing a long-term solution for the increasing demand for backhaul capacity. As of September 30, 2006, we had master service agreements with five of the seven largest U.S. wireless carriers. Through these and other customer agreements, we provide services to 974 billing sites in 12 markets throughout the United States.

FiberTower writes this letter concerning the recent influx of innovative applications for broadband networks pending before the Federal Communications Commission. Specifically, M2Z offers to construct and operate a facilities-based alternative broadband network that will offer a basic level of service that is free for consumers. M2Z also proposes interim benchmarks for building and operating its proposed network.

Generally, FiberTower encourages the Commission to carefully consider new ideas for establishing broadband networks. FiberTower fully supports the Commission efforts to seriously examine multiple models, whether from large or small carriers (or *potential* carriers). The establishment of more broadband networks is a win-win proposition. It is important to avoid predetermining what constitutes a successful "recipe" for creating these new networks. What matters is setting the conditions that allow Government to routinely, seriously, and carefully consider new ideas—and to grant qualifying applicants the necessary Commission-managed resources needed to succeed.

FiberTower believes the public interest shall benefit from the regular introduction of multiple, potential broadband models. It creates a more robust and competitive environment. Consumers win because they ultimately enjoy all the benefits of enhanced competition including greater choice and lower prices. New broadband network deployments will increase the demand for backhaul networks which will further develop the ecosystem within which FiberTower competes.

The quicker that the Commission acts to clear the air concerning the spectrum bands subject to the instant proceeding, along with the AWS, 3650-3670 MHz and other bands, the better.

The key concern here is whether broadband applicants with new ideas will be allowed to quickly enter the marketplace or whether they will experience unnecessary regulatory delays. FiberTower believes that the public interest would be far better served by the first alternative. Therefore, we urge the Commission to: 1) commit to encouraging innovators to file applications, and 2) follow-up by analyzing the record before it quickly and approving worthy applications soon.

Having a quick and fair and transparent debate serves all interests.

Sincerely,

Joseph M. Sandri, Jr. Senior Vice President

cc: Commissioner Michael J. Copps Commissioner Jonathan S. Adelstein Commissioner Deborah Taylor Tate Commissioner Robert M. McDowell